Bhutan King's visit to India

760. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhutan's King, Jigme Singhe Wangchuk, visited India during the month of November, 1990,

(b) if so, the names of the Indian leaders he met;

(c) the nature of talks held with Indian leaders;

(Id) whether, any agreement has since been signed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA' CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The King of Bhutan pa: d a four day visit to India during iNovfember 23—26, 1990[!].

(b) During his visit, the King of Bhutan called on the President, Shri R. Venkataraman. He also met the Prime Minister, the External Affairs Minister and the Finance Minister.

(c) The discussions held with the Indian leaders centered round bilateral, regional and multi-lateral issiies of mutual concern.

(d) A memorandum of Understanding was signed between. India and Bhutan on the 25th of November 1990, to prepare the Detailed Project Reports on the Tala Hydroelectric Project (Chukha II) and Wangohu Reservoir Scheme (Chukha iU).

(e) The Tala Hydroelectric Project is a run of the river scheme and is expected to have and installed capacity of 1000 MW. The Wangchu Reservoir 9ch«|me involves the construction of a rock filled dam and is estimated to have an installed capacity of 5u0— 600 MW. The Detailed Project Reports are expected to be ready by December, 1993. The Memorandum of Understanding is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix CLVT, Annexure No. 16]

Foreign Secretary's visit to Washington

761. SHRI PRABHAKARRAO KALVALA; Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Foreign Secretary visited Washington during the month of September, 1990;

(b) if so, the purpose of the visit;

(c) the nature of discussions held between the Foreign Secretary of India and the U. S. leaders; and

(d) whether any agreement has sirce been signed during the visit and if so. the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA' CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Foreign Secretary's visit to the US in September 1990 was in keeping with the well-established practice °& periodic Indo-US bilateral consultations. During his visit, the Foreign Secretary discussed Indo-US bilateral issues as well as a number of international issues of current importance.

(d) No, Sir.

Irrigation works in dry land areas

762. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state-

(a) whether during the 8th plan period irrigation works in dry land areas will be strengthened;

(b) if so, the total dry lanj areas that will be covered during 8th plan:

(c) whether any concrete schemes have been prepared in this regard; and